REMARKS

Claims 1-17 are all the claims pending in the application.

Claims 1, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 16 and 17 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Teresaki (5,999,532).

Claims 2-4 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on Teresaki and Hijikata (5,864,537).

Claims 11-15 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on Teresaki and Mendelsohn (6,343,083).

The Applicant traverses the rejections and requests reconsideration.

Rejections based on prior art

The Applicants respectfully submit that the configuration of the ATM network, as recited in claim 1, is not disclosed (or suggested) by Teresaki.

The substitute call control system of the present invention provides an ATM UNI signaling function efficiently and cheaply. Using the configuration, SVCs can be used efficiently and cheaply.

In the present invention, as recited in claim 1, a substitute call control function is required to be present in the ATM subscriber line concentrator. Further, claim 1 (as amended) requires that no call control functions be provided by the network terminators or the subscriber terminals.

On the other hand, in Teresaki, a call control function (as opposed to a substitute call control function as in the present invention) is provided by the ATM subscriber line

concentrator. Further, unlike in the present invention, Teresaki provides call control function in the network terminators and the subscriber terminals.

In the illustrative embodiment shown in Fig. 3, PVCs 210b and 210c which connect 30, 40 and 50 are connections used for the subscriber terminals to issue the setting request and release request to the substitute call control application located in the ATM subscribe line concentrator. SVCs 200b and 200c are established as data communication channels.

Conventionally, to carry out the establishment/release request for a SVC connection, a call control protocol was implemented on all the components, namely, the ATM network, the ATM subscriber line concentrator, network terminator and subscriber terminal. The approach used by Teresaki is no different from the conventional approach. On the other hand, the call control protocol is not implemented in all the above-mentioned components in the present invention, as recited in claim 1.

Claims 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 16 and 17 are dependant on claim 1 and are patentable at least for the same reasons.

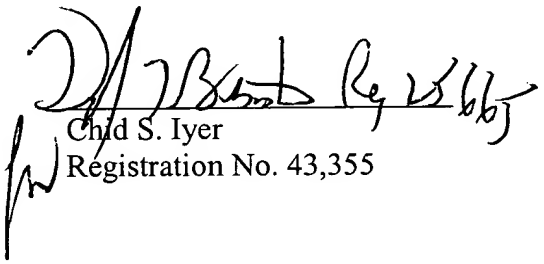
Claims 2-4 and 11-15 are dependant on claim 1 and are allowable at least by virtue of their dependency. Further, the secondary references Mendelson or Hijikata do not overcome the deficiencies notes above in the teachings of Teresaki. Specifically, they do not even remotely suggest that no call control functions be provided by the network terminators or the subscriber terminals.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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